

REMARKS

I. Introduction

The undersigned thanks Examiner Erezzo for his review and consideration of the present Application, including for the Examiner's time he spent discussing the present Application with the undersigned in a June 24, 2008 telephone interview. In a non-final Office Action mailed May 14, 2008, the Examiner rejected claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, and claims 1-14 and 49-51 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The Office Action objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a), and objected to claims 8, 43, 44, and 48 under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form. The undersigned thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 36-42 and 45-47.

The undersigned respectfully submits the following amendments and remarks. Upon entry of the present amendments, claims 1, 41, 50, and 51 have been amended to provide express antecedent basis for the claim limitation "chord length." Claims 8, 43, 44, and 48 have been amended from "wherein the struts comprise six struts" to read "wherein the struts comprise only six struts." Claim 45 has been amended to correct a typographical error; specifically the limitation "three attachment structures" has been corrected to recite "three attachment points." Claim 10 has been cancelled. Moreover, the markings in claim 2 have been changed to comply with 37 CFR 1.173(d) so that matter to be omitted is enclosed in brackets instead of shown by strikethrough (the undersigned respectfully submits that because only the markings of claim 2 have been changed, the claim itself is not currently amended and its status thus remains at "three times amended"). Claims 36 and 45 have been

amended to provide express antecedent basis for the claim limitation “geometrical arrangement.”

No new matter has been added by these amendments. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.173(c), support in the disclosure of the patent, among other places, can be found in Figure 2 and column 4, lines 42-58 and column 8, lines 55-60 of U.S. Patent No. 5,891,143. After entry of the amendment, claims 1-9, 11-14 and claims 36-51 are pending in the reissue application, claim 10 is canceled, and claims 15-35 remain canceled. The undersigned respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in a condition for allowance.

Because the claims have been amended, the undersigned submits with this response an executed supplemental declaration.

II. Drawings

The Office Action objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a). Specifically, the Office Action objected to the claimed subject matter of the attachment structure being pegs, and the system further comprising one or more plates having multiple diameter plates having a second set of attachment structures that do not have the diameter equation of claim 1. Claim 10 has been cancelled, so the objection to the claimed subject matter of the attachment structure being pegs is moot. As discussed during a June 24, 2008 telephone interview, the undersigned respectfully points to Figure 10 as showing a multiple diameter plate having a second set of attachment structures that do not have the diameter equation of claim 1. Accordingly, the undersigned respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a).

III. Claim Objections

The Office Action objected to claims 8, 43, 44, and 48 under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. The present amendments amend claims 8, 43, 44, and 48 to clarify that the struts comprise only six struts. Accordingly, the undersigned respectfully requests withdrawal of the claim objection and allowance of pending claims 8, 43, 44, and 48.

IV. Claim Rejections

The Office Action rejected claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. As explained during a June 24, 2008 telephone interview, support for the limitation of the second set of attachment structures not being spaced according to the diameter equation and chord length of claim 1 is provided, among other places, in column 8, lines 37-54 of U.S. Patent No. 5,891,143.

Additionally, the Office Action rejected claims 1-14 and 49-51 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The current amendments amend claims 1, 41, 50, and 51 to provide express antecedent basis for the claim limitation "chord length."

Accordingly, the undersigned respectfully requests withdrawal of these rejections and allowance of pending claims 1-9, 11-14 and 49-51.

CONCLUSION

The undersigned respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Any fees due at this time may be charged to Deposit Account number 11-0855. If there are any matters that can be addressed by telephone, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned at 404.532.6947.

Respectfully submitted,

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